

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson IV.—Fourth Quarter, For Oct. 25, 1908.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Ps. xxxii.—Memory Verses, 1, 2—Golden Text, Ps. xxxii, 1.—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

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We turn today to this psalm for a lesson on the joy of forgiveness, and the fact that there is so little joy on the part of those who profess to be forgiven may indicate that there has never been a realization of what sin is or possibly no assurance of forgiveness, for when such a word as (Isa. xliii, 25) "I, even I, am He that blot out thy transgressions for mine own sake and will not remember thy sins" fails to produce great gratitude and gladness it indicates a sad indifference to one's guilt or to the great cost of the redemption which takes it away. Our lesson begins with "Oh, the happiness of him whose transgression and sin and iniquity has been put away." In Ex. xxxi, 4, 7, the Lord proclaims Himself as the one who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin, and in Lev. xvii, 11; Heb. ix, 22, it is very clearly taught that this forgiveness can only be by the shedding of blood, and what or whose blood is stated in Eph. i, 7, and many parallel passages—"In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." In verse 5 of our psalm we see that in order to obtain forgiveness there must be an acknowledgment, an uncovering, a confession of sin, iniquity and transgression, for he that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but he that confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy (Prov. xxviii, 13), or, as in Ps. xxxviii, 18, "I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin."

God is ever ready to forgive if only the sinner will confess his guilt. He says, "Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against the Lord thy God (Jer. lxi, 13). Again, it is written, "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John i, 9). The result of attempting to cover our sins from God is seen in verses 3 and 4 of our lesson. That men should be so deluded as to think it possible to hide anything from Him to whom all things are naked and open and to whom darkness and light are all alike seem hardly conceivable, but as soon as Adam and Eve sinned we see them attempting to hide from God (Gen. iii, 8), so blind and so foolish does sin make people. In one place the psalmist says, "So foolish was I and ignorant I was as a beast before thee" (Ps. lxxiii, 22).

In verses 6, 7, the safety of the forgiven is spoken of as a hiding in God and thus preserved from trouble and compassed about with songs of deliverance, reminding us of the gracious words of Isa. xliii, 1, 2, "Fear not, for I have redeemed thee; I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine," and then the assurance that neither flood nor fire can really harm those who are truly His. "Our life is hid with Christ in God," "preserved in Jesus Christ" (Col. iii, 3; Jude, 1)—we know that these things are written in the book, but how few comparatively seem to so appropriate them as to cause them to be filled with joy and peace! There seems to be a great failure to possess our possessions (Obad. 17), a slowness to believe that God means what He says and that He means you or me or any one who humbly and persistently comes to Him. We should be like the man in John iv who believed the word which Jesus had spoken and went his way expecting to find his son well. Being forgiven by His great work without any of ours (Rom. iv, 5; Tit. iii, 5) and safely hidden in Himself, we are now free to serve Him, to live unto Him and to walk in the good works He has prepared for us (Eph. ii, 10; Tit. iii, 8), but this also must be His working in us, and for every step we need His sure guidance, which is vouchsafed to us in verse 8 of our lesson. The margin is very helpful, "I will counsel thee; mine eyes shall be upon thee," or I will tell you how to go and watch you to see that you get there. This, however, implies nearness and intimacy, for we can only tell anything by a look to those who are near to us and know us. See this sure guidance clearly and fully promised in Isa. xxx, 21; Ex. xxiii, 20, and illustrated in Israel.

If Israel had wanted to stay when the cloud said go or to go when the cloud said stay, it would have made it very hard for them. It is only when there is perfect submission that all is at rest. The exhortation in verse 9 not to be as the horse or the mule must be taken in the light of the last clause of the verse, for there are horses and mules, too, which put to shame many who drive them. In Isa. i, 3, God says that the ox and the ass had more intelligence than His people Israel. Even from the birds and the flowers He would have us learn lessons of trust in Him who has assured us that we are of more value than many sparrows. The righteous may have sorrows here, but they shall all be turned into joy (John xvi, 20), whereas the sorrows of the wicked shall be forever. The psalm ends with gladness and rejoicing and even shouting for joy, but it is all in the Lord, for there is no abiding joy apart from Him. See Hab. iii, 17, 18; Phil. iv, 4, and remember Rom. xv, 13.

PLAIN BUT SIMPLE LUNCHEON.

Simple, Inexpensive Dishes That Are Easily Prepared.

It is often puzzling to know just how to plan a luncheon menu that shall at once be inexpensive, dainty, and easily prepared. Here is a suggestion:

Tomato Bisque.
Boiled Salmon with Lemon Sauce.
Broiled Chicken.
Candied Sweet Potatoes.
Peas.
Saltines.
Fruit Salad.
Cream Cheese.
Cabinet Cream.
Sugar Wafers.
Cafe Noir.

For the tomato bisque put one-fourth of a pound of butter in a saucepan, and when it is melted add the contents of a can of tomatoes, with a cupful of cooked rice, a cupful of white broth, and salt and pepper. Cook slowly for three-quarters of an hour, then remove from the fire, pour through a sieve, and cook again for ten minutes, when it is ready to serve. The boiled salmon may be served cold. The lemon butter sauce is made by adding the juice of a lemon to a plain butter sauce.

Candied sweet potatoes are made by placing rather thick slices of cold boiled sweet potatoes into a frying pan with a liberal supply of butter, after rolling them well in sugar. Fry a deep brown.

Cabinet cream is a delicious dessert. Whip until stiff a pint of rich cream, and add a third of a box of gelatine dissolved in water. Dip a glass serving dish in cold water, then line it with currant jelly, and cover with a layer of grated macaroons and this in turn with a layer of whipped cream. Repeat the order until the dish is filled with the last layer of cream. Place a single rose in the center.

TO CLEAN SATIN SLIPPERS.

Rubbing with Stale Bread Is Perhaps the Best Method.

If you wore satin slippers last winter and find upon taking them out this season that they are soiled it is well to clean them at once.

Never leave off the work of freshening and renovating party things until the day you are invited to go out. One always has an unexpected invitation, and finds to her misery that all her party finery needs two or three days' work on it.

So get out your evening slippers now and see that they are thoroughly cleaned and ready for wear.

If the satin is but slightly soiled, get some pieces of stale bread and rub the surface gently with it. This takes off all small discolorations.

Kneaded rubber will do the same work, although some women do not like it because it crumbles off on the satin.

If the slipper is still soiled looking after this treatment, rub the entire surface with the thread. Remember not to go against or cross it.

White flannel should be used—a clean piece—dipped in spirits of wine. If this rubbing is done gently and evenly over the surface the effect is excellent.

Making Butter Balls.

The reason so many women find it a trouble to make butter balls is that the butter is not of the right consistency and the paddles are not cold enough.

Butter should be soft enough to mold easily, but far removed from the melting stage. The paddles should be dipped into ice water, so they do not stick.

Serving butter in this form, besides being daintier, is a decided economy. In helping oneself from a slice men and children are apt to do it too liberally, and a large part of it is wasted.

Keep the butter balls on the ice until just before serving.

Hermits.

One and one-half cups of sugar, one-half cup butter, one-half cup sweet milk, two and one-half cups of flour, one cup of raisins, floured, one teaspoonful each of cloves, cinnamon and allspice, three eggs, and add last one and one-fourth teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water, adding soda after balance is mixed. Have two large bread pans greased and floured and drop the hermits in, a teaspoonful for each, leaving one-half an inch space for them to spread. Bake in a hot oven. They will keep for weeks.

Caper Sauce.

Melt two tablespoonfuls of butter in a saucepan without browning; add one tablespoonful of flour; rub until smooth; then add one and one-half cupfuls of boiling water. Stir over the fire until it thickens. Add two tablespoonfuls of capers. Take from the fire and stir into the sauce the juice of one-half of a lemon and the yolk of one egg. Season with salt and pepper and serve.

Strong Paste.

By putting a teaspoon of sugar into a quart of paste it will fasten labels as securely to tin cans as to wood. Housekeepers may save themselves much annoyance in the loss of labels from their fruit cans when putting up their own fruit by remembering this.

Preserved Grapes.

Wash your grapes (I used the concord) and fill your jars full. Fill with boiling water and let set five minutes by the clock. Turn off, fill again for five minutes, turn off and fill jars full with rich sirup that you have ready. Fill full and seal.

Egg Toast.

Toast and butter as much bread as you wish, lay on deep platter, then make a cream gravy, hard boil five or six eggs, cut the whites of eggs fine, add to gravy, and pour over buttered toast, then grate the yolks over all.

Character In Clothes



There is an atmosphere about some turnouts that distinguishes them as more than mere vehicles.

About some clothing there is the same character. A tailor may take the same high-grade woollens and the same trimmings that are used in a Stein-Bloch suit or overcoat and make you a suit that lacks this distinction—which the material used deserves and which rightfully belongs to the customer.

The suit will "wear" but it will never be anything but a cloth covering. On the other hand, some tailors can give you the style and distinction that you demand—but they charge heavily for this distinction.

The problem would be a pretty one for you to solve did not Stein-Bloch step in to solve it for you. They are tailors for men and have concentrated their energies on making clothes as well as clothes can be made. They have struck a golden mean of proven fashions, of tested woollens, of smooth fit, of proper style.

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STETSON AND "NATIONAL" HATS.

Allan & Murphy.

The Preacher's Advice.

"My friends," said the itinerant preacher, "the Scriptural rule for giving was one-tenth of what a man possessed. If you feel that you can't afford so much, just give a sixth or a fourth, according to your means. We will dispense with the next hymn, and take up the collection."—Lippincott's.

Largest County in America.

The largest county in the United States is Yavapai county, Arizona, which has an area of almost 30,000 square miles. Nine states of the union are each smaller than this county. It is larger than the whole of West Virginia, and almost as large as South Carolina.

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